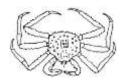
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact: Adam Messmer

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COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB ANNOUNCEMENT SOUTHERN AREA CLOSURE DATE

Petersburg . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the commercial golden (brown) king crab fishery in the Southern Area will close at 12:00 noon **Friday, May 11, 2012**.

Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest as of the closure date is expected to reach the 20,000-pound GHL for the Southern Area. The department will continue to monitor golden king crab harvest levels in the remaining four open areas. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days after the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the Southern Area no later than 12:00 noon Wednesday, May 16, 2012.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0812.

News releases web site: <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</u>.

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